

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 13622 190446Z

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ACTION PM-03

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 H-01 INR-05 L-01 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 AEC-05 AECE-00 ACDA-05 DRC-01 /053 W

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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5370

COMUSJAPAN FUCHU

SECDEF WASHDC

CINCPAC HONOLULU

COMNAVFORJAPAN YOKOSUKA

UNCLAS TOKYO 13622

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MARR, JA

SUBJ: NUCLEAR CONTROVERSY

1. OCTOBER 19 PRESS FOCUSED ON DIET COMMITTEE STATEMENTS ON NUCLEAR CONTROVERSY AND ON REPORTS OF NUCLEAR TRAINING EXERCISES CONDUCTED ON MIDWAY. IN UPPER HOUSE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE OPPOSITION PRESSED KIMURA ON MCMAHON ACT AND ON ALLEGED SECRET NUCLEAR TRANSIT DISCUSSIONS. OPPOSITION ARGUED THAT USG NEITHER CONFIRM NOR DENY POLICY AND GOJ THREE NUCLEAR PRINCIPLES WERE EACH MATTERS OF HIGH NATIONAL POLICY LEAVING GOJ WITH ROOM TO NEGOTIATE WITH US FOR DISCLOSURE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS LOCATION. KIMURA REPORTEDLY REPLIED THAT GOJ RECOGNIZED NEED FOR SECRECY TO MTAIN NUCLEAR DETERRENT ON WHICH JAPAN DEPENDS. IN RESPONSE TO JCP ALLEGATION THAT SECRET DISCUSSIONS HAD BEEN HELD TO PERMIT TRANSIT OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS THROUGH JAPAN TO KOREA, KIMURA REPORTEDLY SAID THAT THERE HAVE NEVER BEEN ANY US-GOJ DISCUSSIONS OF PROBLEM OF NUCLEAR TRANSIT THROUGH JAPANESE TERRITORY (RYOIKI TSUKA MONDAI). KIMURA SAID SUCH TRANSIT WOULD BE SUBJECT TO PRIOR CONSULTATIONS. AFTER COMMITTEE

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PAGE 02 TOKYO 13622 190446Z

MEETING ASAHI REPORTS A FONOFF SOURCE CLARIFIED STATEMENT BY

SAYING THAT GOJ CONSISTENT POSITION WAS THAT TRANSIT (TSUKA) OF JAPANESE WATERS BY VESSEL CARRYING NUCLEAR WEAPONS WOULD CONSTITUTE NUCLEAR INTRODUCTION (KAKUMOCHIKOMI). JAPAN TIMES REPORT OF SAME COMMITTEE MEETING ASSERTS THAT KIMURA SAID THAT HE WOULD SEEK CONFIRMATION FROM U.S. THAT TRANSIT WOULD REQUIRE PRIOR CONSULTATIONS BUT THIS AT ODDS WITH OTHER ACCOUNTS.

2. ASAHI ALSO FRONT PAGED STORY ON INTERVIEWS WITH MIDWAY CREWMEN CONCERNING NUCLEAR DRILLS. ACCORDING TO STORY, ASAHI INTERVIEWED 30 CREWMEN IN VARIOUS BARS AND COFFEE SHOPS AT YOKOSUKA. CREWMEN REPORTEDLY DESCRIBED AND NAMED FOUR TYPES OF NUCLEAR DRILLS, TWO RELATED TO NUCLEAR ACCIDENTS (BENT TOMOHAWK AND BROKEN ARROW) AND TWO TO PREPARATIONS FOR LAUNCHING NUCLEAR ATTACK (BLUE BELL AND CAMELOT).

3. PRESS BRIEFLY NOTED MIDWAY DEPARTURE AND SPECULATED THAT EARLY DEPARTURE RELATED TO NUCLEAR ISSUE.
HODGSON

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